

# Weekly Views

**Be informed about the Indiana Department of  
Correction**

*Friday, October 10, 2008*

*"Dreams come true.  
Without that possibility,  
nature would not incite us  
to have them."  
~ John Updike*

At the Commissioner's Awards Luncheon held at the ICA Conference, Correctional Industrial Facility won Facility of the Year, Gregory Cress of South Bend Community Re-entry won Superintendent of the Year, Lynda Sward from Westville won Correctional Professional of the Year, Tyese Boone from South Bend Juvenile won the Corrections Supervisor Award, James Davis from PEN Products won Employee of the Year, Michelle Rains from Pendleton won the Administrative Support Award, Stacy Doane-Selmier and John Turkupolis of Indianapolis Parole District #3 both won Parole Employee of the Year, Alex McEathron of Westville won Physical Plant Employee of the Year, Elaine Zschoche of Westville won the Distinguished Service Award, Michael Organ of Rockville won the Rising Star Award, William Babb of Miami won Chaplain of the Year, Anthony Goffinet of Branchville won Human Resources Employee of the Year, Carman Babb of Miami won Finance Employee of the Year, and Kathy Alvey of Branchville won Re-entry/Case Management Employee of the Year. Congrats!

PEN Products' Farm and Food Manager, Lin Paul, was named president of the National Association of Institutional Agribusiness (NAIA), which is a group promoting ideas on institutional farming, ranching and food industries operations.

Branchville Correctional Facility received a refurbished 1998 GMC C8500 Fire Master fire engine, which was excess property at Logansport State Hospital, for part of a mutual aid agreement between the facility and area volunteer fire departments.

Miami Correctional Facility donated over 458 pounds of vegetables from its offender garden to the Kokomo Rescue Mission.

The PLUS unit at Indiana Women's Prison completed 600 packets for MDWISE, a not-for-profit managed care organization, which contained an array of parental care information. The unit also made many pink ribbons for breast cancer awareness.

Robert Petty and Alfred Grambo from the International Table Tennis Association put on a table tennis clinic for offenders at Plainfield Correctional Facility in hopes of using the sport to boost confidence.

Pendleton Correctional Facility donated 20 pumpkins grown in the facility's PEN Products Farm to the Indy Baby Expo.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility's PLUS Unit sponsored a canned food drive for National Recovery Month. The facility donated approximately 100 lbs. of non-perishable food items to the 13 Step House in Fort Wayne.

The Mighty Hands Puppet Ministry, an outreach Christian program provided by Lifeline Baptist Church, recently provided a program for 19 offenders at Pendleton Juvenile. The ministry uses puppets, witnessing, and live music to relay their message.

Rockville Correctional Facility staff participated in the Race for the Cure, donating \$426. Offenders held a pie sale raising an additional \$387.82. Assistant Superintendent of Operations Dick Brown finished 21<sup>st</sup> in the 5K competitive competition.

Delbert Boone, authority on addiction and criminal behavior, spoke at the Westville Correctional Facility. Boone addressed 436 offenders assigned to the facility's Therapeutic Community and provided inspiration to staff and offenders alike.

The Indiana State Prison Minimum Security Unit held a food sale from Kentucky Fried Chicken with the profits being donated to 2 local women's shelters. The check for \$286 was presented to the shelter's director this week.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 8 students of the Clean Lifestyle is Freedom Forever (CLIFF) Unit. To date, 123 have graduated from the program.

30 IU students toured Plainfield Correctional Facility and discussed prison, parole, and probation roles with staff.

4 students from Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility received their GED certificates, one receiving honors.

*From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner*